

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 CU-04 SS-20 IO-14

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R 110820Z ZZH

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9222

AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 0437

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, XE

SUBJ: AAFLI SUPPORT OF ALEC

1. PHILIPPINE SECRETARY OF LABOR OPLE REPORTEDLY SEEKING JAPANESE TRADE UNION SUPPORT FOR ASIAN LABOR EDUCATION CENTER (ALEC) OF UNIVERSITY OF PHILIPPINES. OPLE ALLEGED THAT AFL-CIO'S ASIAN AMERICAN FREE LABOR INSTITUTE (AAFLI) PLANNING TO END FINANCIAL AID TO ALEC; AND THAT WOULD CREATE MAJOR PROBLEM FOR THE UNIVERSITY. EMB LABATT APPROACHED BY IMF-JC'S SETO TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH IS CASE. JAPANESE LABOR RELUCTANT TO ASK QUESTION OPENLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO INTENTION TO POACH ON AAFLI TERRITORY.

2. SETO'S IMPLICATION CLEAR THAT IF AAFLI PLANS DENDING ITS SUPPORT, GOJ, POSSIBLY DIRECTLY, POSSIBLY THRU IMF-JC OR SOME NEW ORGANIZATION, MIGHT BE WILLING TO ASSUME SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALEC FINANCING. SUPPORT, SUCH AS PROVIDING AIR FARES AND LIVING EXPENSES FOR ALEC PARTICIPANTS, FEASIBLE SAYS SETO BECAUSE LABOR MINISTRY HAS FUNDS AVAILABLE IN FY 74 BUDGET FOR TRADE UNION ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SUCH A PROJECT WOULD IMPROVE JAPANESE IMAGE IN EYES OF GOP AND LABOR MOVEMENTS IN SE ASIA.

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3. IF DEPT DEEMS FEASIBLE, SUGGEST LOW-KEY APPROACH BE MADE
TO AAFLI TO ASCERTAIN ITS PLANS ON CONTINUED ASSISTANCE TO
ALEC.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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